

LOCAL TROOP 64 AT CAMP POWHATAN

LOCATED on Big Max Creek near Hiwassee in Pulaski County, Virginia, Camp Powhatan is the official camp for Blue Ridge Council 600 of the Boy Scouts of America. The Council comprises counties in Southwest Virginia.

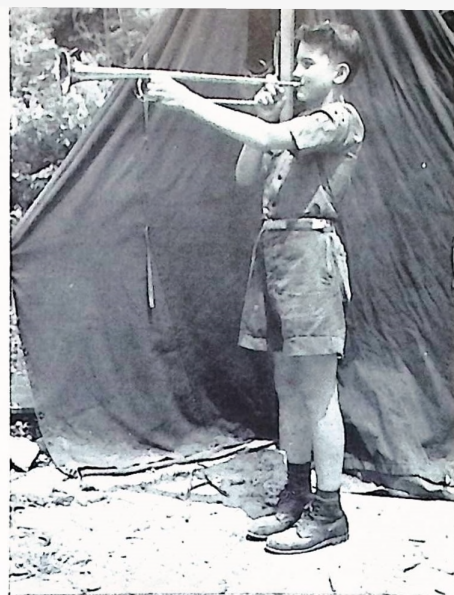
The camp site, procured by the Council in 1949, consists of more than 400 acres of heavily wooded areas deep in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Facilities include a fully equipped dining hall, recreation building, shower house, recreation field, first aid building and health center. Fourteen camp tent sites are located around the property. Many improvements, including a four to five acre lake, are planned for the 1956 season.

Attendance at the camp has grown

steadily from 322 in 1949 to an estimated 1,400 this year.

Under able instructors, the boys go on planned hikes, swim, practice on archery and rifle ranges, practice scout crafts, study nature, work on merit badges and, best of all, learn to be true, red-blooded American boys and the American way of life.

We have pictured on this and the next page a few of a day's activities of Martinsville Scout Troop 64 which is sponsored by the First Baptist Church. The troop is ably directed by Jim McMillian, Maintenance, Shelton Blackwell, Design, and Harold Dorton, Design. The boys of Troop 64 claim they are three of the best in the business of scouting anywhere.



LEARNING the reveille and taps is Branton Martin, Jr., son of Fire Marshall, Branton Martin. He hopes to be bugler on a future visit to the camp in mountains near Pulaski.



TENTS have floors, cots, mattresses and two Scouts are assigned to each. (L. to R.) Johnny Rist, son of Henry Rist, Project and "Scotty" Witherow, son of Jack Witherow, Textile.



CLEANLINESS is a "must" with Scouts. Dickey Shelton, "Butch" Rist, son of Henry Rist, John Dyches, son of Hamp Dyches, Maintenance, "Buzzy" Schiebe, George Branham, Jr., son of George Branham, Service, "scrub".



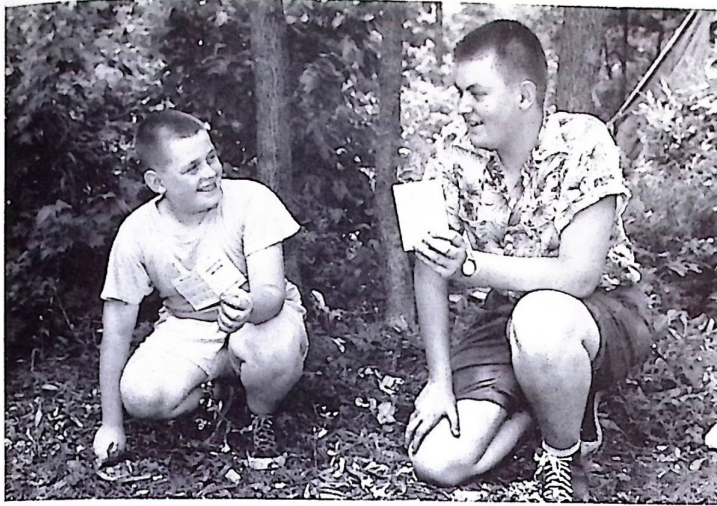
THE camp lake comes first on the recreational agenda of the boys. Here under the guidance of instructors and waterfront leaders many Scouts learn to swim. A larger lake to permit boating is planned for 1956. Water from mountain stream is clear, cool and healthy for boys.



BOYS at camp enjoy a beautiful mountain stream which flows nearby. Below camp stream is dammed to form a lake where Scouts swim and take instructions from their leaders every day.



HIKES from camp over unexplored surrounding mountains are highlights for the boys. Here returning from a trip are (L. to R.) Billy Ratcliff, Donald Wilder, Jimmy Gilley, "Scotty" Witherow, Worth Mathewson. Nature study is common on such hiking trips.



JACK HALL and "Buzzy" Schilbe were proud receivers of merit badge cards for first aid while at camp. A doctor is in attendance to guard health of boys during the camping season, June 13 through August 7. Merit badges are also presented for many other Scouting activities.



TROOP 64 is composed of 35 members, 19 of whom attended camp for a week during June. The boys occupied Rock Ridge camp site for the second year in succession and were under the very able leadership of Messrs. Dennis Wilson and Ed Griswold.



JUSTIAN KELLY, JR., son of J. A. Kelly, Project, posed in front of one of camp's totem poles. It was erected in 1951 by Troop 249 of Pulaski.



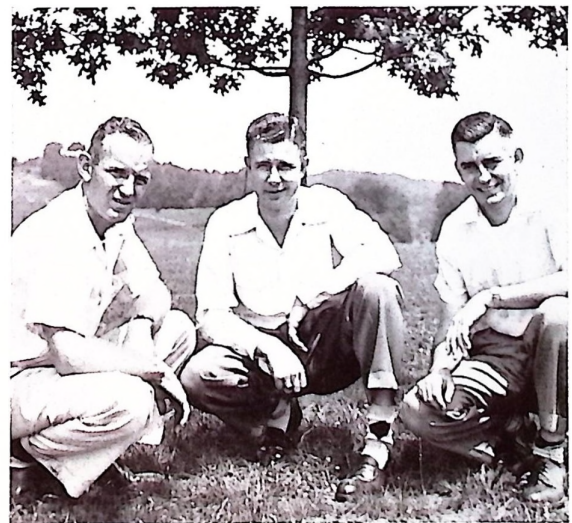
BILLY RATCLIFF, George Branham, Jr., "Butch" and Johnny Rist, Junior Leaders in health and safety, quarter-master, activities, crafts, respectively. Tom Dallas, waterfront, was on duty swimming when this picture was made.



(L. to R.) Donald Wilder and Worth Mathewson making belts. This is one of the many handi-craft projects the boys engage in while in camp. Tables are at each camp site for such projects.



FAVORITE spots of boys at Camp Powhatan are the rifle and archery ranges. Here Bill Stroutamire and "Scotty" Witherow fire away under the instructions of Lewis Whitescarver. Another group, among which were several from Troop 64, await turn.



(L. to R.) Jim MacMillan, Maintenance; Shelton Blackwell and Harold Dorton, Design. They are Scout Master, Troop Committee Chairman and Assistant Scout Master.